

REMARKS

The action by the Examiner of this application has been given careful consideration. Following such consideration, claim 43 has been amended, while claims 44-45, 50-55, 68-72 have been cancelled from the current application in order to expedite prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to continue prosecution of the subject matter of the cancelled claims in any subsequently filed continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application.

It is respectfully requested the Examiner reconsider the claims in their present form, together with the following comments, and allow the application.

The Examiner has objected to claims 43-45, 50, 51 and 68, stating that they are indefinite and fail to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claim 43 to clearly state that the claim is directed to an antisense oligonucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 9 and SEQ ID NO. 18. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim, as amended, clearly recites the subject matter contained therein.

Applicant has canceled claims 44-45, 50-55 and 68-72 from the current application. However, as stated above, Applicant reserves the right to continue prosecution of the subject matter of these claims in any subsequently filed application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests favourable reconsideration of the application.

If the Examiner believes there are any further matters which need to be discussed in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Appl. No. 09/719,737
Amdt. dated November 7, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2003

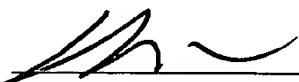
FEE AUTHORIZATION

Should any fees associated with the submission be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0850.

Date: 11/7/03

Customer No.: 26770

Respectfully submitted,



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